Public INEEL seeks public comment on draft Community Relations Plan

he U.S. Department of Energy is asking for the public to comment on its draft Community Relations Plan for the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory Environmental Restoration Program. Cleanup activities at the INEEL are managed under the Idaho Completion Project.

The plan, last updated in 1995, is a guide for the public on the opportunities to become informed and involved in the cleanup process at the lab's desert facilities related to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Liability and Compensation Act -- or Superfund. It provides background information and a brief history of the cleanup work taking place under the 1991 Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order. Under Superfund, the DOE, the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency and the state of Idaho are committed to providing the public with unbiased information to assist in making cleanup decisions. Key community concerns about DOE's public involvement process are addressed in this plan.

Comments will be taken through July 23, 2003. By commenting on the Community Relations Plan, stakeholders can offer input that the agencies can use to tailor public information and involvement materials and meetings to better meet stakeholders' needs.

The Community Relations Plan will be available in electronic format at (www.inel.gov/environment), or hard copies can be requested by contacting the plan coordinator at (208) 526-3183 or via e-mail at campil@inel.gov. Comments on the plan can

be made over the internet or via postal mail to:

Community Relations Plan Coordinator Balance of INEEL Cleanup Project PO Box 1625 Idaho Falls, ID 83415-3940

